

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing location information in relation to telecommunications plant equipment, the system comprising:

a plurality of telecommunications plant equipment, each telecommunications plant equipment being part of an access network and having:

a first location sensor configured to provide a first location associated with the telecommunications plant equipment;

a set of equipment characteristics comprising information about the telecommunications plant equipment relevant to servicing of the telecommunications plant equipment;

a first network interface in operative communication with a network engineering center via a service network,

the first location sensor being installed at and associated with the telecommunications plant equipment and configured to report the first location to the network engineering center via the service network; and

a first computer readable medium, the computer readable medium encoded with instructions executable by the microprocessor to communicate, to the network engineering center over the service network, the location and the set of equipment characteristics associated with the telecommunications plant equipment; and

a portable technician device, comprising:

a second location sensor configured to second provide a location associated with the portable technician device;

a second network interface in operative communication with the network engineering center via the service network; and

a second computer readable medium, the computer readable medium encoded with instructions executable by the microprocessor to:

receive, from the network engineering center over the service network, an indication of a servicing need for one of the telecommunications plant equipment;

receive, from the network engineering center over the service network, the first location and the set of equipment characteristics associated with the one of the telecommunications plant equipment; and

map a route to the one of the telecommunications plant equipment as a function of the second location and the first location associated with the one of the telecommunications plant equipment.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the portable technician device further comprises:

a distance sensor;

a direction sensor; and

the second computer readable medium is further encoded with instructions executable by the microprocessor to:

receive a distance from the distance sensor;

receive a direction from the direction sensor; and

calculate a third location based at least in part on the second location, the direction, and the distance, wherein the third location is the location of an object in the image.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the portable technician device further comprises a transmitter, and wherein the transmitter is operable to provide the location of the object in the image to a query database.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the portable technician device further comprises a receiver, and wherein the receiver is operable to receive description information from the query database.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the object is a landmark, and wherein the information about the landmark is selected from a group consisting of: historic information, access rates, driving directions, parking information, and walking directions.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the portable technician device further comprises a display, and wherein the display is operable to display information selected from the following: the direction, the distance, and the location of the object.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the portable technician device further comprises a display, and wherein the instructions are further executable by the microprocessor to:

access a map, wherein the map includes a route from the second location to the third location; and

provide the map to the display.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the map is a topological map.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining location information in relation to an object image, the method comprising:

initiating a mapping function integrated into a portable device substantially upon leaving a first location, the mapping function being configured to log locations according to a location sensor;

terminating the mapping function substantially upon arrival at a second location remote from the first location;

generating a route map from the first location to the second location as a function of the locations logged according to the location sensor;

capturing an object image of telecommunications plant equipment;

determining an installation location at the telecommunications plant equipment having a relatively high global positioning system (GPS) signal strength with respect to other locations at the telecommunications plant equipment;

installing a GPS location system at the installation location;

receiving a third location defining a location of the telecommunications plant equipment from the GPS location system;

receiving a set of equipment characteristics comprising information about the telecommunications plant equipment relevant to servicing of the telecommunications plant equipment; and

associating the telecommunications plant equipment with the route map, the object image, and the third location.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises:

providing a request for information about the telecommunications plant equipment, wherein the request includes the set of equipment characteristics.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving the information about the telecommunications plant equipment.

15. – 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises:

storing the object image; and

associating the stored object image with at least one of the route map, the set of equipment characteristics, or the third location.

18. – 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A system for providing telecommunications plant equipment monitoring, the system comprising:

a central monitor remote from, and in operative communication with, a plurality of portable technician devices, wherein the central monitor is configured to receive an indication of a servicing need for one of a plurality of telecommunications plant equipment, each telecommunications plant equipment being associated with a location and a set of equipment characteristics comprising information about the telecommunications plant equipment relevant to servicing of the telecommunications plant equipment, the location associated with each telecommunications plant equipment being determined by a location sensor being installed at and associated with the telecommunications plant equipment and configured to remotely report the location to the central monitor; and

a dispatch module in operative communication with the central monitor and with a dispatcher, and configured to:

receive an indication of an event occurrence, the event occurrence relating to a servicing need for one of the plurality of telecommunications plant equipment; and

upon receiving the indication, automatically communicate the location and the set of equipment characteristics associated with the one of the telecommunications plant equipment to at least one of the portable technician devices for use in dispatching a response to the event occurrence.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the telecommunications plant equipment comprises inside plant equipment or outside plant equipment.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the set of equipment characteristics is selected from a group consisting of:

detailed building information of a building in proximity to the telecommunications plant equipment;

detailed cabinet configuration of a cabinet associated with the telecommunications plant equipment;

card information relating to cards associated with the telecommunications plant equipment; and

customer information relating to a customer associated with the telecommunications plant equipment.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the method further comprises:

communicating the object image with a network engineering center over a network.